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FTA NEWS

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

Vol. VIII, No. 3 — March, 1948 — 68 — Price 5 Cents

BYPASSES TAFT ACT, FTA WINS 6–1 VOTE

Completely bypassing the redtape of the Taft-Hartley act, FTA has just won a smashing six to one vote at the new Duff Mix plant in Hamilton, Ohio. Total score on the vote, conducted without going through the Taft-Hartley Labor Relations Board, was 339 for FTA to 53 against.

The election, held by agreement between FTA and the Duff Mix Baking Division of the giant American Home Foods, Inc., was conducted by the American Arbitration Assn. Nearly 100 percent of the workers voted—392 ballots cast out of 410 eligible. Only one ballot was void.

Exactly 30 days after the election, the new union, FTA Local 160, won a contract that was unanimously ratified by the membership.

Gains in the contract included an average of 17.5 cents an hour increase in wages, adjustment of pay inequities between different shifts (bringing as much as 20.5 cents an hour more to the second shift and 19.5 cents to the third, plus time and half on the sixth day and double time for the seventh.

Other gains included formalizing of the six paid holidays and the five cent differential in the third shift; a workers' cafeteria and transportation committee, important because the plant is five miles out of town; setting up a safety committee, extension of rest periods and other improvements in working conditions.

Commenting on the election victory, FTA Regional Director Warren G. Horie said:

"This victory, in the little industrial town of Hamilton (population 70,000), was brought about by unity of the workers involved around the main issue of the union.

"It proves once again the value of FTA's policy of avoiding the legal tanglefoot in the Taft-Hartley act. The election was held only seven days after the agreement between our union and the company. This is a speed record unequalled in the days when the Wagner act gave the workers a break.

"For those who have doubts about labor's ability to organize under Taft-Hartley, this should be a convincing example. It also proves that the slave act should be repealed at once, since it stands in the way of labor's right to bargain collectively."

Senator Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.) found it pretty dull when he had to listen to CIO protests against passage of the Taft-Hartley act last summer, but he was forced to sit up and take notice when FTA and Packinghouse Workers leaders told his committee of unfair labor practices at union-busting R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. in Winston-Salem, N.C.

(See stories, page 3)

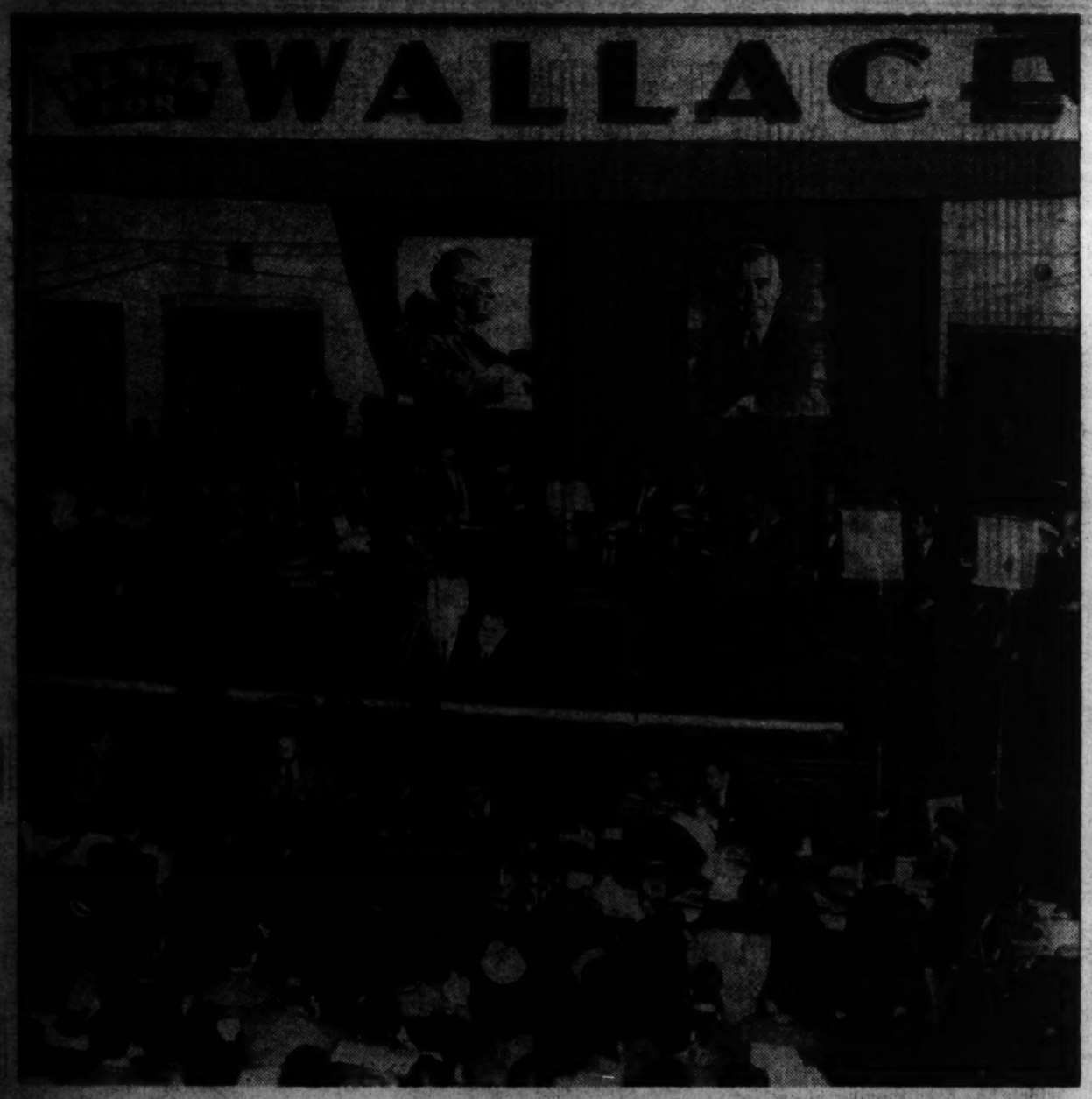
Hit Ball 'Report'

"Open union busting" was charged this week to the Taft-Hartley committee of Congress set up under Sen. Joseph H. Ball, the tired gentleman pictured on the left.

The charge came from FTA President Henderson and was backed up by CIO President Philip Murray. It came when Ball's committee issued a "report" on FTA Local 22 and the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. of Winston-Salem, N. C.

The report, said Henderson, was "a one-sided document slanted on the side of the employers and against the workers."

The document, first issued on a major union under the Taft-Hartley act, got Senator Ball and its authors into considerable trouble. For the story [illegible] is very [illegible]



More than 2,500 delegates from unions, fraternal groups, liberal organizations, etc., crowded the high school at York, Pa., to set up the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania and to nominate Henry Wallace and Glenn H. Taylor as their candidates for President and Vice-President of the U.S.A. FTA President Donald Henderson was co-chairman of the convention and was elected Vice-Chairman of the Party.
(photo from York Gazette & Daily)

'CAMELS' TRUST UP TO UNION-BUSTING AGAIN

All FTA locals and CIO internationals and councils are warned that the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., makers of Camel cigarettes and Prince Albert smoking tobacco is up to its old union-busting tricks again.

The warning was sent in a letter from FTA pointing out that Reynolds has flatly refused to negotiate for renewal of the contract with FTA Local 22 that expires April 30.

"This is a testing ground for the Taft-Hartley act," the FTA letter said. "Local 22 is the biggest CIO local union in the South. It is a leader in progressive political action, and last year elected the first Negro alderman in any Southern city since the 1890's.

"The fight of 10,000 Reynolds workers is your fight —for decent wages, jobs and security against Taft-Hartleyism."

All union members were urged to write the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Winston-Salem, N. C., asking them to bargain in good faith with FTA-CIO Local 22.

Warning: War Hysteria

Warning of the war hysteria now being raised to "fever pitch" was made in a resolution adopted by the FTA International Executive Board meeting this month in Philadelphia, Pa.

The resolution declared that voters are eager to "support candidates who will work for peace and security," citing the election victory of Rep. Leo Isacson in New York on a Wallace program and reaffirming FTA Board support of Wallace for President.

Text of the resolution follows:

Within the past week the drive to war has changed from a long range plan aimed at a distant objective to an immediate threat.

Speeches and statements of President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall, plus the drive to jam the European Recovery Program through Congress, have raised the war hysteria to a fever pitch.

New military plans and conferences are announced almost daily. The push is on to fasten compulsory military training and national forced labor on the American people.

Red-baiting and un-American witch hunts, both inside and outside the labor movement, are being stepped up every day as an essential part of forcing the people to accept war.

World War III can be prevented. The response of the people to Henry Wallace's program and the rapid building of progressive parties throughout the nation show that the people are mobilizing to prevent war by political action.

The election of Congressman Leo Isacson in New York on an anti-war platform proves that the people are moving. The suppressed poll showing that 15,000,000 people would vote for Henry Wallace is further proof.

The people are eager to support candidates who will work for peace and security. They have already repudiated the Truman Doctrine, as is admitted by the leaders of the Democratic Party themselves, who are even now preparing to drop Truman as their candidate. There is every possibility that Henry Wallace will be the next President of the United States.

The program of Henry Wallace and of the progressive parties is the road to peace.

Now, therefore, the International Executive Board of FTA-CIO reaffirms its support of Henry Wallace and the candidates pledged to his program adopted at our meeting of January 12, 1948.

Since that time, the overwhelming majority of FTA members, acting through their locals, have expressed support of Wallace and have worked to build up progressive parties wherever they are organized.

As Americans and as members of FTA-CIO, they have the inalienable right to endorse political candidates and parties of their own choice.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees freedom of speech and assembly to all. The National CIO cannot force its unions or its members to endorse or condemn any political candidate or party. Letters or statements to the contrary by CIO officials cannot compel CIO unions or members to give up their rights.

We shall continue our support of Henry Wallace and shall increase our efforts to build a new, national progressive political party for peace and security.

FROM WASHINGTON

WAR PLANS IN WASHINGTON

By ELIZABETH SASULY

When Pres. Truman asked Congress to pass UMT and the draft, he was only trying to finish a military machine which has been two years in the making.

Marshall and Forrestal weep crocodile tears about our defenses. We must arm at once, they say. The war never ended for the brass hats. As soon as World War II ended, they started getting ready for World War III.

All this is a matter of public record. There is probably even more going on behind the scene, but here are some of the things being done in the open:

1. Atom bomb production is probably higher than it ever was during the war. A-bombs were only beginning to come off the line when the shooting stopped in August, 1945. Since then our tax dollars have been poured into the Oak Ridge and Hanford atom plants. There is a top civilian board over atomic energy, but the plants are in the hands of the big monopolies — like General Electric and Carbide & Carbon— and the bombs are in the hands of the military.

2. At White Sands, New Mexico, the Army, Navy and Air Force are working on rockets and guided missiles on a scale as big as the atom project. A year ago, tests were run on the most advanced German V-2's. Those were the rockets which terrorized England. The V-2 was so fast it could hardly be detected, much less shot down. When perfected by America, it will be the perfect carrier for the atom bomb. Intense efforts have been going into perfecting the V-2 for at least a year.

3. The intensive drive for volunteers in the armed forces has gone on like a well-greased soap campaign. Army spokesman have admitted they are using their jobs to propagandize for UMT, the draft and a bigger regular army. Even so the drive for volunteers fell 350,000 short of the goals set by the brasshats.

4. Intensive manoeuvers have gone on in Arctic areas to accustom men to winter operations. The military strategists have made clear that a war with the Russians will be fought across the polar cap. Hence Army, Navy and Air Force have all tried out their men and equipment under conditions of extreme cold.

5. Perhaps the biggest campaign has been for a huge air force. The federal budget calls for the spending of $4 billion per year for airplanes. This is enough money to pay for about 25 dams the size of Boulder Dam. But it is only a beginning.

In January the Finletter Commission handed Truman a report calling for great expansion of the air force. In the middle of the report was a map centered on Point Barrow, Alaska, the best point from which to bomb the Russians. Two months latter the Joint Congressional Aviation Policy Board came out with a similar report calling for the doubling of our aircraft program. By this plan, we would have the privilege of giving the aircraft manufacturers $40 billion in the next five years.

By a not very strange chance the advisory committee behind this report consisted entirely of airplane manufacturers and generals, with one newspaperman and one AFL official thrown in for trimming. The eagerness of these gentlemen makes a lot of sense when it is realized that most of the producers, like Douglas, lost money last year.

All this adds up to war. Armaments are not made to be looked at The brass hats are using the argument that we must be strong enough to frighten the rest of the world.

But—there is still a chance for the people to be heard. This is an election year. The Congressmen can not hope to pull the same stunt they pulled on Taft-Hartley when they turned their back on what the people were saying. This year they have to stand trial by election in November. And it is noticeable on Capitol Hill that congressmen are straining to catch every passing straw in the wind.

Now is the time to let your Congressman know what you think about the draft, UMT and all the rest of the war program which has been moving ahead for two years. The fate of the world is literally in the hands of the American people.

Armando Valdes, appointed Acting General Secretary-Treasurer of FTA by the International Executive Board, meeting in Philadelphia, Pa., March 13-14. (See story, page 4.)

NEW WRINKLES

It's a poor day for the bosses when someone doesn't invent a new trick in union-busting.

Among the latest of these is the use of committees of Congress to smear and disrupt unions.

The technique is to turn a Congress committee loose on an "investigation" of a union. The House unAmerican committee has done it repeatedly, pulling a job on FTA Local 22 at the height of its strike last year. The House Labor committee pulled a job on the workers at Allis-Chalmbers, breaking a strike with the aid of stoolpigeons from within the union.

Now comes the Taft-Hartley committee set up under Senator Joseph H. Ball, a former union man who has finked on labor ever since he was appointed to the Senate.

This committee has just issued a report on FTA Local 22 that sets a pattern for similar reports on other unions. The report, as CIO President Philip Murray has pointed out, is "one-sided in its approach and wholly biased in its conclusions." FTA President Henderson has similarly denounced it. An editorial in the Raleigh, N. C., Observer is sharply critical of the report and of the committee.

The report was issued just as FTA goes into negotiations with one of the biggest corporations in the U. S.—the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. It is aimed purely and simply at disrupting these negotiations and helping Reynolds to evade its duty of bargaining collectively with the union of its employes.

This is nothing more nor less than union-busting by Congressional committee.

How long are American workers going to allow Congress to side openly with the bosses and against unions?

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From the Locals

Dick Tracy—FTA Style

Brother Robert Richardson of Local 194 has found it pays—in cash money—to be an FTA Steward and to wear his Steward's badge. Going home with his week's pay the other night, he was stopped in his own hallway by two ugly looking thugs who wanted his dough. Here's how Brother Richardson tells it:

"I opened the door and ordered them to back up so I could get in. They seemed to ignore me, so I flashed my Steward's badge at them. They took it for granted I was a police officer. I then chased them out—and if it hadn't been for the badge, I'd have lost my whole week's pay."

FTA Wins Health Plan

After three years of steady pressure, FTA locals in the Quaker Oats chain have won a company paid health plan providing sickness and disability pay and other benefits.

Described as a "good start" by FTA Acting Secretary-Treasurer Armando Valdes, the plan applies to all workers with a minimum of six months employment in the company.

Waiting period is seven days, with benefits set at four hours pay for every day lost. Benefits run from eight weeks for workers with up to five years seniority to a maximum of 16 weeks for 10 or more years.

The plan comes up as a subject for collective bargaining after a one year's trial on the present basis.

Meantime, Local 110, Cedar Rapids, Ia., has renewed its contract with Quaker Oats ahead of the April 22 deadline, with reopening of the wage question and protection of the union's right to strike. The contract is similar to those in Akron, O. and St. Joe, Mo.

'Polar Bears' Sign Up

Members of FTA Local 55, who like to call themselves "Polar Bears" have signed up nearly 100 percent—98, to be exact,—in the union's drive for dues checkoff authorization slips.

Prodding the holdout two percent, the union's publication (also called the "Polar Bear") has this to say: "Consider the benefits and improvement of working conditions that now exist under the constant vigilance of Local 55 . . . and make our goal 100 percent."

75 Wins On Deadline

Negotiations right up to the midnight strike deadline won an improved contract for Local 75 workers at the Gulf Atlantic Warehouse Co. in Houston, Texas. The workers were prepared to hit the picketlines when the settlement came.

Gains won included irrevocable checkoff for one year, elimination of a no-strike liability clause and more paid vacations. The raise was eight cents straight across the board, bringing the minimum to 83 cents an hour. A previous settlement in another plant by the AFL Intl. Longshoremens Assn. set the eight cent pattern.

'Not Fooled', Leaf Workers Say

By Cornelius Simmons

When the workers at E. B. Fickin, Person - Garrett and Greenville, N.C., Tobacco Companies received a 10c wage increase before they got a contract they were told "this is not the union doing this—we just want to be nice to you people." Now without any kind of alibi to offer, they are paying off seasonal vacation money.

Many of the workers fell for the wage story but are not being misled about the vacation pay. They are finding the stewards and joining the union. One worker being signed up said: "I and many others have been riding the gravy train. We took it easy while you union members did the work. Now I am joining and so are lots of others. I want a button so I can show all the diehards that I have had enough."

Here are the newly elected officers of FTA Local 300, formed from the recent merger of a number of midwest local unions. From left, seated: Hazel Bonifas, trustee; Helen Pohlabel, financial secretary; Dorothy Vandezande, vice-president; Viola Bush, editor; Edna Boroff, trustee; Flossie Mills, trustee. Standing: Deloris Sawmiller, Theresa Lentine, Mary Rigdon, Lula Horn, board members; Sally Sullivan, president; Lenore Mahlmeister, Mae Reid, board members and Albert Lawrence, sergeant at arms. Missing from the picture are Violet Schifferly, recording secretary and Delight Good, board member.

FTA, CIO Blast At Taft Act 'Report'

A blast from FTA President Henderson and CIO President Philip Murray rocked the Joint Congress Committee set up under the Taft-Hartley act this week and caused some scurrying around by its chairman, Senator Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.) and some plain and fancy alibing by its authors this week.

The fancy footwork started when the Joint Committee issued a "plant study report" on FTA Local 22's relations with the R. J. Reynolds (Camels) Tobacco Co. in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Before it was over, Senator Ball was issuing denials right and left, the authors of the report were lying right and left (and getting caught at it) and the entire labor movement was alerted to a new method of union busting under the Taft-Hartley act.

The report was billed as "impartial," as such reports are supposed to be under the act. In the words of President Henderson, it was "an open attempt at union busting, thinly disguised as an 'impartial' report."

And, in the words of CIO President Murray, who sent a letter to Senator Ball on the report, it was "one-sided in its approach and wholly biased in its conclusions. The report suppresses fundamental facts with respect to the relationship between the company and the union."

Added to the Ball report was a strong dose of racism in the form of slurring remarks on the Negro members of the union. Thus, in the opening pages the report said that Negro workers do not have the "higher skill that was deemed requisite to machine production of cigarettes."

Again, as Henderson pointed out, "the report does not even stop at ridiculing the religious beliefs of citizens of Winston-Salem, when it says: 'Employes who failed to respond to the exhortations (to join the union) were described from the pulpits, quite often by name, as 'sinners' and 'working for the devil.' Just as often they were given to understand that their abiding place in eternity would be very warm indeed.'"

Both Henderson and Murray pointed out that the report was issued at a time when FTA Local 22 is attempting to negotiate a new contract for the 10,000 Reynolds workers—a request that the giant tobacco trust has refused even to consider.

"This report," Henderson told Ball, "is a highly colored exercise in anti-union and anti-Negro prejudice. Prepared at this time, when the union is trying to renew its contract, it can only be interpreted as open union busting by your committee."

Both Henderson and Murray charged that "the authors of the report made no attempt to get the union's side. No responsible union officer was questioned. No hearings were held. The union was not asked to produce figures, books or records."

Within 24 hours of the scheduled appearance of the report, its authors were found guilty of plain lying when a Winston-Salem Labor Relations Board official denied emphatically statements they said he made.

This official, Reed Johnston, an NLRB examiner in Winston-Salem, said: "I did not make the statements I am quoted as making in the report. As for the case about which I am supposed to have made these remarks, I never heard of such a case being brought before the NLRB."

This denial, which was printed on page one of the Winston-Salem Journal for March 16, did not deter the Reynolds controlled paper from printing an editorial inside the same issue under the title "A Report Based On Facts."

Of such is journalistic honesty in a company town.

And thus is revealed again the real purpose of the Taft-Hartley act — to bust unions, break up bargaining, lower wages and working conditions.

Challenge To Truman

"Your often repeated pledge of support for the civil rights of all Americans must now meet the test of action. Words, reports and pledges will sound hollow indeed to the people unless this test is met."

With these words, FTA President Donald Henderson called on President Harry S. Truman to take action against the killer of Roy Cyril Brooks, citizen of Gretna, La., and member of FTA Local 309.

Brooks was murdered by Police Officer Alvin Bladsacker of Gretna in an argument over a five cent bus fare. Nothing has been done by local or state authorities to bring him to justice.

All FTA members are urged to write similar letters to President Truman, the White House, Washington, D. C., to Governor James H. Davis, Baton Rouge, La., and to Mayor Charles Gelbke, Gretna, La.

An American and a union brother has been lynched. Bring the murderer to justice!

Words In Washington —Death In Louisiana

Not very many weeks after President Truman issued his Civil Rights Committee report, and just about the time the White House was issuing almost daily statements about its enforcement, a citizen of the United States and a member of FTA-CIO was lynched in Louisiana.

The victim was Roy Cyril Brooks, a resident of Gretna, La., worker in the Swift fertilizer plant and a member of FTA Local 309.

Most lynchings are done at night, under cover of darkness. This one was done in broad daylight, in the center of town, in full view of hundreds of people.

Most lynchings are done by mobs, which helps to make it "impossible" for the authorities to recognize them.

This lynching was done by one man, without a mask, and everybody in town, including the authorities, knows who he is.

His name is Alvin Bladsacker, and he is an officer of the Gretna, La., police force. He directs traffic on Huey P. Long Avenue, in the shadow of the Jefferson Parish courthouse.

Officer Bladsacker was on duty February 27. FTA member Brooks was on his way to work. He boarded a bus behind a woman who put a nickel in the fare box, realized she was on the wrong bus and asked for it back. Because she was a Negro, the bus driver curtly refused. Brooks then gave his nickel to the woman instead of putting it in the box, so that no one would be the loser. This is a recognized custom.

The driver challenged Brooks. An argument began. Officer Bladsacker came over. He arrested Brooks, beating him over the head with a blackjack as he did so.

Bladsacker started taking Brooks to jail, a block or two away. Halfway to the jail, Bladsacker pulled out his gun and shot Brooks twice. Brooks died on the street in full view of hundreds of passersby.

Bladsacker claimed Brooks "made a motion as if to draw a weapon." The nearest thing to a "weapon" found on Brooks' body was a bag of peanuts. He was shot twice at pointblank range, once in the abdomen and once in the back.

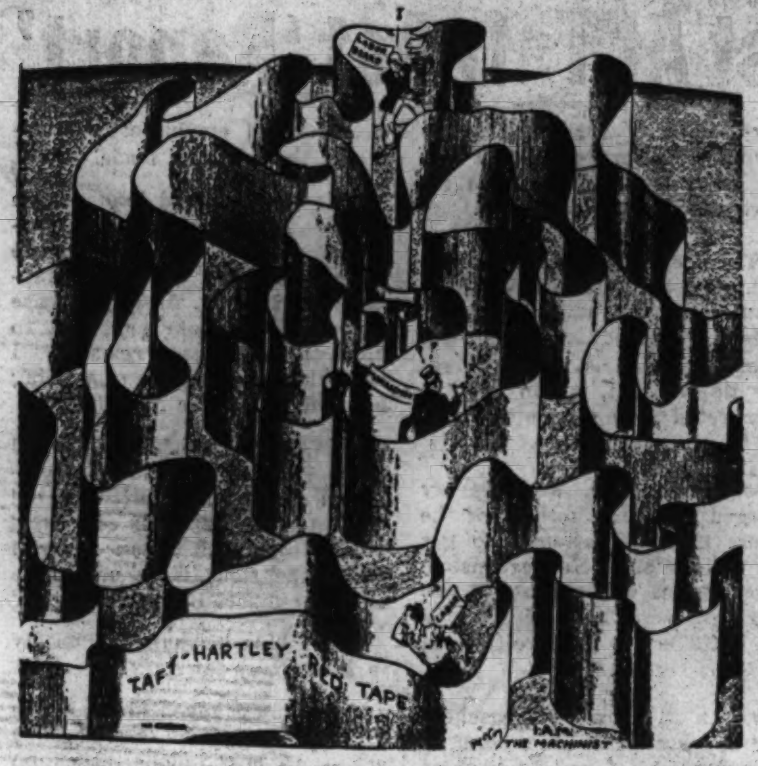
A few minutes later Bladsacker was back on his post, directing traffic. Nothing has happened to him since. The Chief of Police, the Mayor, the Sheriff of the Parish (county), the Governor of the State have done nothing.

Forty-eight hours after the killing, the Seafood Workers Council, FTA, wired President Truman to act immediately "in this case of a direct violation of the civil rights section of the U. S. Constitution."

They have had no reply yet from President Truman.

Words in Washington, death in Louisiana.

Here's the meeting of the FTA Mississippi Delta Council covering Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi meeting last month in the CIO hall at Memphis. Twenty-one delegates, plus Dir. of Organization John Tisa and Regional Dir. Larry Larsen attended.



The Intl. Association of Machinists (independent) was the first big international union whose officers ran to sign Taft-Hartley affidavits, figuring it would give them a license to raid other unions. Now IAM leaders are regretting it as they get tangled up in Taft-Hartley redtape — as cartoon from their paper shows.

THEY'VE GOT A PLAN

U.S. Attorney-General Tom Clark—the man who can't catch a lyncher—and his FBI have got plans for you, ready to go into action the minute the cold war hots up to real shooting.

It's all under the disguise of fighting "communism," of course, but it boils down to a cold-blooded, well thought out scheme for putting trade unionists in jail once the hostilities begin.

Clark unveiled the scheme when he was being questioned on war plans by the unAmerican Committee of Congress. Rep. Vail was asking him what he could do about "communist" unions without new laws. Clark's answer was:

"One, we are certainly on our toes on all this type of activity; two, without further legislation . . . the President could suspend the writ of habeas corpus and then suggest to the Congress that they approve of his action in so suspending; in which event the FBI could — I am speaking now of a war, of hostilities—the FBI could pick up such persons as they thought were inimical to the safety of the U.S."

Just to make it perfectly clear Vail said: "I have in mind the Natl. Maritime Union, the Intl. Longshoremens and Warehousemens Union and the Transport Workers Union."

"Suspending "habeas corpus" writs means that a unionist can be held in jail indefinitely, without bail even without communication with a lawyer. First suspend it, says Clark, then pass a law.

TEAMOS TRY TRICKS

AFL Teamsters are up to their old raiding tricks in the Modesto and Manteca, Calif. canneries again, FTA Organizer Lorena Ballard reports. Plants involved are the Stanislaus Food Products and Califruit Canning, both under contract to FTA Local 82.

Teamsters have filed petitions asking for Taft-Hartley elections, despite the fact that FTA has won two elections since 1945 and has held contracts for two and a half years, Organizer Ballard adds.

FTA has asked that the Teamster petitions be dismissed on this ground and on the ground that unfair labor practise charges were filed against both companies.

FTA HITS BOSS' GRAB OF VA. JOBLESS PAY

Proposed seasonal amendments to the Virginia Unemployment Compensation Act would discriminate against workers in some of the lowest paid industries in the state by depriving them of unemployment benefits, FTA told the Virginia House Finance Committee.

"Today in Suffolk, 500 workers who had seasonal jobs are unemployed and are reporting to the Employment Office," said Isaac Baker, FTA representative who is employed at the Planters Peanut plant. "These workers do not regard themselves as 'seasonal. They want and need to work all year. If benefits are taken from them, the community will have to pay the bill. Small businessmen, farmers and other citizens will have to carry the burden of relief if these workers are forced to ask for relief because unemployment benefits are taken from them."

Mr. Baker presented petitions from voters in Suffolk to the Committee but did not have an opportunity to present testimony. He will appear, together with other workers from the peanut industry in Suffolk, tomorrow morning at 10 AM. The committee has extended the hearings to allow additional witnesses to testify. Amanda Jackson of Local 26 also testified.

Elizabeth Sasuly, Legislative Director of FTA-CIO stated in her testimony before the committee that "By branding workers 'seasonal' because they happen to have worked in a tobacco leaf house or peanut plant which operates seasonally. Senate Bill 6 would take away the rights of these workers to benefits based on their earnings in seasonal or any other plants."

FREE PRESS BAN OUT OF TAFT LAW; NEW GAGS ARE PLANNED

The Bill of Rights won a round this month when a Federal Judge in Washington, D.C., threw out the indictment of CIO President Philip Murray on a charge of violating the political activities ban of the Taft-Hartley act, but the act itself was still giving the constitution a severe kicking around.

The indictment came after Murray openly published an endorsement of a political candidate in The CIO News, and was squashed on the ground that it is "an unconstitutional abridgement of freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of assembly."

(FTA, which supported Murray's position in the trial, has also deliberately violated this section of the Taft act in publishing political endorsements in FTA News.)

Meantime, the Natl. Labor Relations Board, in publishing a six months survey of the workings of the Taft-Hartley act, contributed a strong though unintentional indictment of the act itself simply by citing the record.

This record shows that the number of elections sought under the Taft-Hartley act had dropped to 1,395 compared to a total of 3,500 in a similar period under the old Wagner act.

Unfair labor practice charges against employers dropped to 1,064 under Taft-Hartley from 1,606 under the Wagner act. Of the Taft-Hartley total of 1,064, 73 percent had to be brought by individuals, not by unions. Similar proportion under the Wagner act was only six percent. In other words, Taft-Hartley makes it almost impossible for unions to bring charges against bosses. It has to be done by individual workers.

The NLRB record proves clearly that compliance with Taft-Hartley affidavits and other red tape does not pay off. Thus, unions won only 67 percent of the smaller number of elections held under the slave law, while in Wagner act days they won 75 percent of a much greater number.

Company unions, politely called "unaffiliated" by the NLRB, doubled their percentage of wins under Taft-Hartley, going up to 25 percent from 12.4 under Wagner.

A new look came in with Taft-Hartley act license for bosses charges against unions—175 of which cited unions on "unfair labor practices."

Another new wrinkle is the "decertification" process under Taft-Hartley. Here all the dice are loaded, and though less than a majority of the workers voting in such cases were against a union, 58.4 percent of such elections resulted in decertification. (Non-voters are counted as against the union in such elections.)

Heads I win, tails you lose is the Taft-Hatley rule—and signing all the affidavits in the T-H book doesn't help.

Final proof of this comes from the Intl. Assn. of Machinists, first big union to sign with the NLRB. Early this month the IAM got into a strike out in Cleveland. Within a few weeks, the NLRB called an election in which the scabs were allowed to vote against the IAM.

Now the IAM is complaining bitterly. A recent issue of the "Machinist" adimits that collective bargaining has been broken by Taft-Hartley in nearly 5,000 IAM shops.

Being a mouse does not pay.

STATEMENTS ON LANE RESIGNATION, TRIAL

(Following in the official statement on behalf of the FTA Intl. Executive Board on the suspension, trial and resignation of former General Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane. Lane's statement, addressed to FTA General President Donald Henderson, also follows.)

Statement on behalf of International Executive Board of FTA concerning former General Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane.

At a special meeting of the International Executive Board held March 13 and 14, Harold J. Lane, general secretary-treasurer of FTA, was unanimously suspended from office following the filing of serious charges involving financial irregularities. These charges and this action of the International Executive Board followed careful investigation by the International Officers, who unanimously had suspended Lane March 9 pending the meeting of the International Executive Board March 13.

The International Executive Board unanimously elected Armando Valdes as acting secretary-treasurer to take over the duties of this office effective March 13. All future communications dealing with the general secretary-treasurer's office should be addressed to Armando Valdes, acting general secretary-treasurer, FTA-CIO.

Susan Lane, chief bookkeeper, was unanimously discharged by the International Executive Board for obvious complicity in the irregularities.

The International Executive Board appointed a Trial Committee composed of General President Henderson, Vice-President Lewis C. Bentzley and Robert Lathan, International Board Members Herbert Kling and Moranda Smith to hear and finally dispose of the charges against Lane. This Trial Committee met Monday, March 22. Without going through the proceedings of a trial Harold J. Lane admitted the charges, signed a confession and made restitution to the full amount of the deficits covered by th echarges.

Accompanying this statement is a copy of the signed confession of Harold J. Lane.

The confession, the resignation and payment in full by Lane make no further action necessary on the part of the International Executive Board.

Fraternally yours,
INTERNATIONAL
EXECUTIVE BOARD
by

Donald Henderson
General President
John Tisa
Intl. Org. Dir.
Armando Valdes
Acting General Sec.-Treas.
Robert Lathan
Intl. Vice-President
Armando Ramirez
Intl. Vice-President
Lewis C. Bentzley
Intl. Vice-President

March 23, 1948

Donald Henderson,
General President,
Food, Tobacco, Agricultural
and Allied Workers Union
of America, CIO.

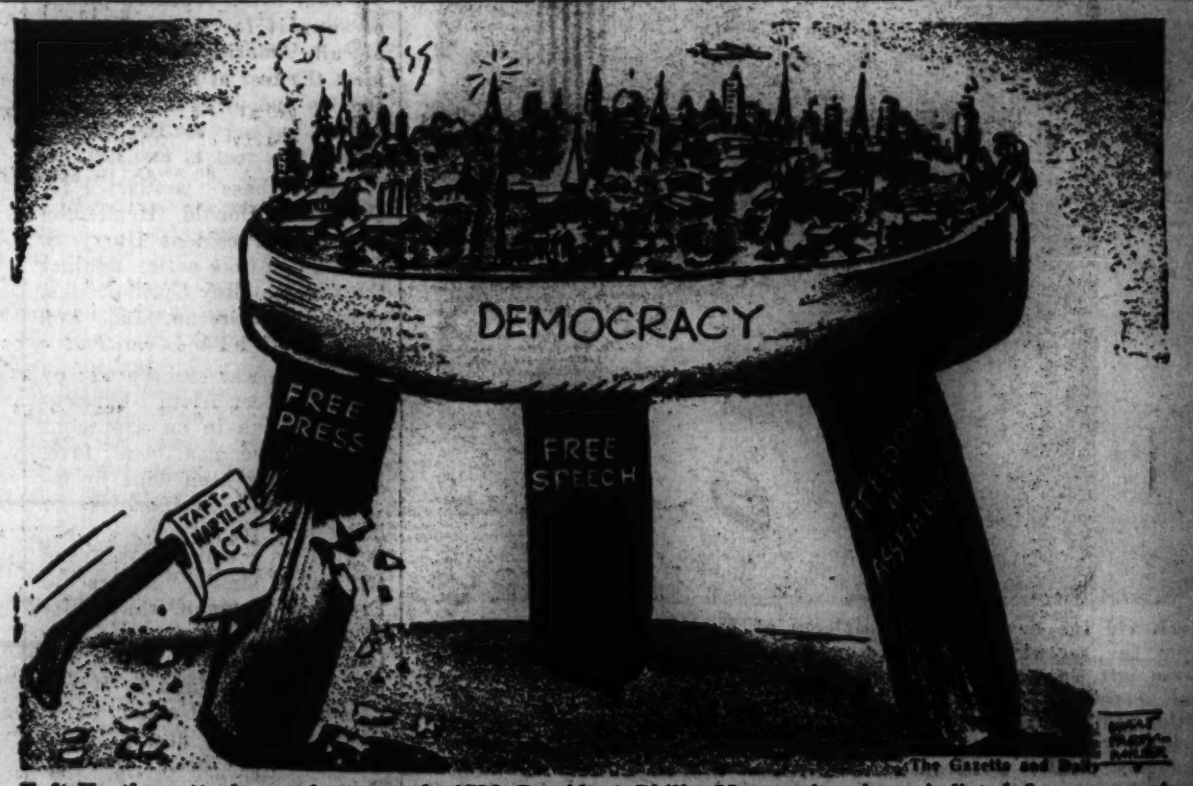
Dear Sir:

Having been informed of a discrepancy in my expense accounts in the amount of $2,446.90, I am, therefore, submitting a check in full for said amount.

Under the circumstances I present my resignation as a member and international secretary-treasurer of FTA-CIO.

I further state that the union is not indebted to me in any amount whatsoever, and that I have no claims against it, its officers or members.

Very truly yours,
(s) Harold J. Lane



Taft-Hartley attacks on free speech (CIO President Philip Murray has been indicted for commenting on a political campaign in CIO News) are proof that the labor law threatens free speech and free press of all Americans. Pro-Wallace York, Pa., Gazette and Daily is only daily newspaper to see and act on this NAM-inspired attempt to destroy U.S. Bill of Rights.

Here's the bunch that did the job of winning a better than six to one vote for FTA at Duff Mix, Hamilton, O. (See story, page one.) Standing, from left: Clyde Congelton; Mary Horie (wife of FTA Regional Director Horie); Ruth Alcorn; FTA President Henderson; Betty Diesbach; Anna Myers; Louis Hahn, of the Ohio Wallace Committee. Seated Arthur Motzer, vice-president, Local 160; C. D. Fowler, president; T. R. McNulty; R. Stanfield; FTA Organizing Director John Tisa and Regional Director Warren G. Horie.

FIGHT WAR DRIVE, WALLACE ASKS US

An appeal to all Americans to speak up and stop the insane drive to war was made by Henry Wallace in a radio speech made on March 18 after Truman had called for the draft and other war preparations in his message to Congress. Excerpts from the Wallace speech follow:

Why have we reached this crisis in world affairs?

We have reached this state because the men who are running our government fear the power of the common men and women the world over. They have recognized that the world is changing; that the peoples of the world are on the march. . . They are afraid of this demand for change and they are standing against it. They are using our resources, our science, our productive facilities—and soon they hope to use the bodies of our young men—to stop the demands of the people everywhere. . .

In accusing another nation of sole responsibility for the undermining of the United Nations, this Administration tries to cover up facts which have brought us shame and cost us friends throughout the world.

It was our State Department which killed the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which circumvented the United Nations to give military aid to Greece and Turkey, which ignored the UN Economic Commission in planning what is called European Recovery, and which is ignoring even today the decision of the UN on Palestine. We have a share of the responsibility for the weakening of the United Nations. . .

It is openly proclaimed in high places that we shall, sooner or later, fight the Russian people; yet no reason for such a war is advanced.

The attempt to make the fight for peace subversive will not succeed. We shall seek as earnestly for the common ground for peace as others seek the reasons for conflict.

We must take the offensive for peace. As we fight against the draft and compulsory military training we must also fight to eliminate the conditions which make war and defense profitable for private interests. . .

We must demand that our government accept its share of responsibility for the world crisis. We must demand firm allegiance to the UN.

Speak up now. Speak up for peace. Don't let the fear makers intimidate you into silence. Be heard now—for the voice of peace-loving, freedom loving people is our only national defense.

Victory cheers are acknowledged by Henry Wallace and Congressman Leo Isacson, elected in New York on a straight Wallace ticket in last month's special election. FTA officials and members from Local 273 aided in the whirlwind campaign, with FTA Vice-President Armando Ramirez helping in the drive.

Handshakes and broad grins are the order of the day among Senator Glenn H. Taylor, vice-presidential candidate on the Wallace ticket, Henry Wallace, FTA supported candidate for President and FTA President Donald Henderson. Picture was snapped at the opening of Wallace for President headquarters in New York.

FTA LEADS IN NEW PARTIES

FTA members from Pennsylvania to California were busy at work this month helping build new, progressive political parties in the drive to elect Wallace and halt the Truman-GOP drive to war.

In California, hundreds of FTA members took part in the drive to get the Independent Progressive Party on the ballot through a 500,000 name petition campaign.

New York FTA members, with Vice-President Armando Ramirez and Regional Director Severino Martinez worked in the successful election in the Bronx, where the first Wallace Congressman was elected in a stunning defeat for the Democrats.

In Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, FTA members were taking part in Wallace and progressive party work. In Chicago, Local 194 set a pace for other unions to follow in the earlier campaign to build the Progressive Party of Illinois. In New Jersey, Local 80 was in the lead with other militant CIO unions to build the new party there.

Pennsylvania's FTA locals, especially 186 of Philadelphia, 80 of Camden, many of whose members live in Philadelphia, and 638 of Lancaster, sent large delegations to the founding convention of the Pennsylvania Progressive Party in York, Pa., where Wallace spoke and where FTA President Henderson was elected a vice-chairman of the new party.

FTA delegates Dorothy Musser of 638 and C. W. Fowler of 186 were on the platform and resolutions committee of the Pennsylvania convention, the latter acting as secretary. Platform points included repeal of Taft-Hartley, an end to war threats and atom bomb diplomacy, a $1.00 an hour minimum wage, protection of civil rights, and a number of state planks.

Speaking to the York convention, Wallace declared: "We have them (the old parties) panicked. Lip service and the old pass the buck game just won't work with a new party in the field.

"They know that we shall continue to blow away the clouds of red smoke under which they have carried out their programs of robbery.

"The distraction of a communist menace is only good for the short run at best. It doesn't take long for people to recognize that the communists didn't kill OPA and send prices sky-high; that the Communists haven't moved Wall Street and military men into key government jobs; that the Communists aren't responsible for the restriction on civil liberties, the maintenance of the polltax, the continuation of segregation and discrimination."

FTA FOR WALLACE

These are the FTA locals that have already endorsed Henry Wallace for President of the United States—and they represent the overwhelming bulk of FTA's widely scattered membership:

186, Philadelphia, Pa.; 80, Camden, N. J., 638, Lancaster, Pa.; 273, New York, N. Y.; 105, New Brunswick, N. J.; 7, Seattle, Wash.; 10, North Carolina; 22, Winston-Salem, N. C.; 26, Suffolk, Va.; 194, Chicago, Ill.; 82, Modesto; 50, Oakland; 25, Los Angeles; 64, San Diego, all of California; 306, Phoenix, Arizona; SSS Division of 78; 110, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

(Note: any local omitted in this listing should report at once to FTA Legislative Director Elizabeth Sasuly, 930 F St. NW, Washington 4, D. C.)

YOU ARE A DANGEROUS RADICAL AND A THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY!
1920
...THE PLANT WILL HAVE TO SHUT DOWN AND YOU'LL LOSE YOUR JOB IF THE MINIMUM WAGE AND SOCIAL SECURITY LAWS ARE PASSED
1936
...END PRICE CONTROL AND PRICES WILL SOON ADJUST THEMSELVES...
1946
...THE TAFT-HARTLEY LAW IS THE WORKERS BEST FRIEND!
1948

MARSHALL PLAN THREAT TO US WORKERS AND FARMERS INCOME

Adoption of the European Recovery Plan (better known as the Marshall Plan) as now drawn up will freeze the living standards to European workers at below prewar levels and will cut living conditions for farmers and workers, FTA President Donald Henderson told Congress in testimony this week.

"We have a parallel right close at home," Henderson said. "For a hundred years or more northern capital in the U.S.A. has attempted to hold the South virtually as an agricultural and raw materials colony of northern money. You can see the results for yourself.

"The road to prosperity is through a rapid recovery of Europe. But this is far from the end result of the ERP. Scores of documents presented to Congress openly boast of the fact that after four years of operation, in 1952, the level of living in western Europe will be about 10 percent lower than it was in 1938, which was far from a prosperous year.

"Do the bipartisan sponsors of ERP seriously propose to make the American people believe that they are contributing to genuine European recovery when the net result of four years of spending of some 17 to 18 billion dollars in the way planned by the present Administration will lower the living standards of American workers?"

State Department planners who wrote the ERP cut down heavily on proposed exports of capital goods—machinery, etc.—to the 16 "Marshall Plan" nations while at the same time demanding heavy increases in manufactured exports from those countries, Henderson pointed out.

"This is not just economic nonsense, it is vicious, Henderson said. "What the ERP planners are demanding is that the wornout and bombed out industries of Europe should export more—but not get more of the machines with which to increase those exports.

"Perhaps you gentlemen do not understand what this means. But I can tell you that the American worker does not need to be told what that means—he knows. It means one thing—if you have to produce more with the same old machines, the workers must work harder and longer and get less for what they produce. This is the stretch-out economy which ERP imposes on the workers of western Europe.

Turning to the needs of the American farm—and the food and fiber processing worker—for a prosperous, industrialized Europe as a customer for food products, Henderson said:

"It is obvious that prosperity in agriculture and the agricultural industries depends on two things; the greater prosperity of their customers and the greater industrialization of the areas in which agricultural products are sold.

"Which is a better customer for food, for fruits and vegetables, for grain and meat and all the products of our farms than the most industrialized countries? Which is the better customer, the man who cannot afford to buy oranges and apples and meat, or the man with more money who can?

"The only basis for a durable prosperity in agriculture and the agricultural industries is building the long term prosperity of its best customers, whether those are the wage earners of this country or any other country.

"When this country sets out on a program such as ERP which does not and cannot yield prosperity for our neighbors, it does a positive harm to American agriculture and its associated industries."

Henderson closed his testimony before the committee with a recommendation of a world recovery plan to be operated through the United Nations and the World Food Board, which, he said, would buy U. S. farm produce at a fair price and would remove the fear of surplus that now hangs over the farmer's head.

"We too are for increased production," he said, "but of food and other things people need—houses, machines, the goods to build for peace, not the increased production of materials of war. We too, as members of unions, are for aid to the peoples of the world, but for aid to prevent hunger, to build recovery and prosperity."

FTA ASKS EQUAL PAY

Demand for equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex, was made to Congress in FTA testimony this week on HR 4408, the equal pay bill now in the House Labor Committee.

One reason for the fact that the food and tobacco processing industries are notorious for their low wages is the discrimination against women on wages, the FTA testimony pointed out.

"The device of calling certain jobs 'women's jobs' is common," the testimony said. "Such jobs automatically carry a lower rate than those classed as 'men's jobs,' even though the job in question may require equal or greater skill."

A U. S. study of 700 canneries, for example, showed that 60 percent of women workers were paid less than 55 cents an hour, while only 25 percent of the men got less than this. The lowest paid man worker got seven cents an hour more than the highest paid woman.

When a U. S. advisory committee on labor was sent over to Japan to make recommendations, the FTA statement pointed out, it asked for a decree of equal pay for equal work to end "one of the worst features of Japan's traditional wage structure."

The House Labor Committee, which has plenty of time and energy to persecute labor leaders and harass unions, has had no time for HR 4408. It has been sitting on the bill since 1945. Remember how quickly the committee acted on the Taft-Hartley act?

Quote Of The Month

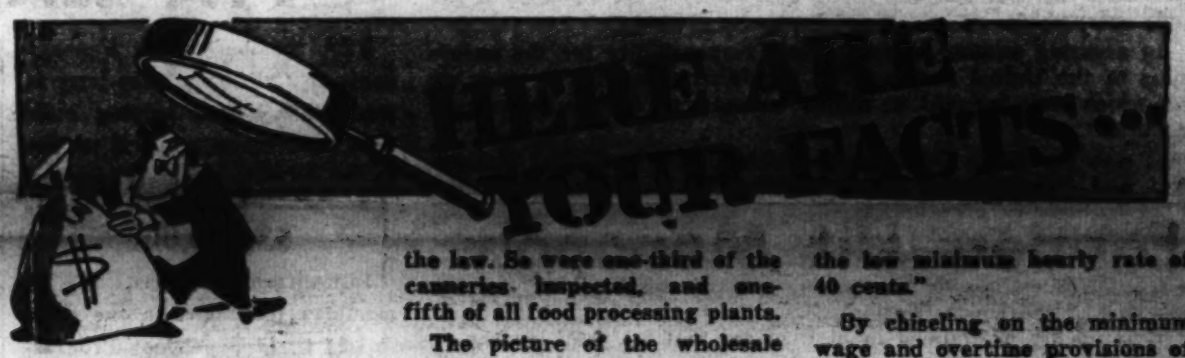
"What do you have to do to be a good American? Do you have to agree to let the boss sweat you? Do you have to agree to tremendous Wall St. profits? Do you have to agree to the drive toward war?—to lynching—to a future for youth in the army? Is it unAmerican to oppose these things?

"No!" roared the audience.

"You're wrong. The newspapers say you're wrong."

(Thomas Fitzpatrick, president of District 6 of UE-CIO, making the keynote speech at the founding convention of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania.)

H. Arthur Klein, (left) former editor of the California FTA News, is author and producer of "People's Program," a 16 mm sound film on independent political action centered around a drive to repeal the Taft-Hartley act. Picture was made for Los Angeles CIO Council, is for sale at $54 a print, rental $9.00. Write Pictures, Ltd., 141 N. Orange Drive, Hollywood 36, Calif. for prints.



OUT OF YOUR POCKET

By Joseph Califf
Research Director

Are you getting all the wages and overtime pay you are entitled to under the wage-hour act? The chances are you aren't.

Believe it or not, 87 percent of the plants inspected by the U.S. government last year were found to be violating the wage-hour law. This startling fact is brought out in the latest annual report of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, the agency which administers the law.

Half of the plants visited by government inspectors last year were found to be violating major provisions of the law. These plants either weren't paying the 40-cent minimum wage, were not paying time-and-a-half for overtime, or were employing children illegally. Thirty-eight percent of all establishments were guilty of serious violations.

The food and tobacco industries are at the top of the list of chiselers. Nearly two-thirds of the food and tobacco manufacturing plants inspected were violating the minimum wage, overtime pay, or child labor provisions of the law, as against only half of the establishments in all industries combined.

Taking all industries together, about one plant out of every eight of those inspected either was paying less than 40 cents an hour to some of its workers or had children working illegally. But nearly three times as many of the tobacco factories — 37 percent — were violating these sections of the law. So were one-third of the canneries inspected, and one-fifth of all food processing plants.

The picture of the wholesale extent to which companies in FTA industries are breaking the law is shown in the following figures indicating the results of inspections made by the government last year:

Name of industry	Percent of plants violating major provisions of Wage-Hour Act Per Cent
Total, all industries	51
Tobacco Manufacturing, total	64
Food Manufacturing, total	63
Canning and Preserving	60
Dairy Products	60
Grain Mill Products	60
Confectionary and Related Products	60
Bakery Products	68
Meat Products	63
Fats and Oils, including cottonseed oil	48
Fresh fruit and vegetable trade, including packing sheds	59
Tobacco, including leaf houses	65
Raw cotton, including cotton compresses	47

While some of these violations may have been unintentional, the amount of deliberate law-breaking is very great. The Wage-Hour Administrator says in his report:

"There are still a substantial number of employers subject to the act who require their employes to work more than 40 hours per week and do not pay time and one-half for the overtime work although they know that the acts require such extra payment. Frequently these employers falsify their records to show only 40 hours worked by each employee. Such employers fail to pay even the low minimum hourly rate of 40 cents."

By chiseling on the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the law, the bosses are poketing millions of dollars that rightfully belong to the workers. The government found that the amount of wages illegally withheld from workers in the plants inspected last year came to more than $18,000,000. But these plants are only seven percent of the establishments which come under the wage hour law. If they are typical of the general situation, then the amount of money which employers have taken — in many cases deliberately stolen—from the workers in the last four years comes to more than $250,000,000!

Even if the Wage-Hour Division finds an employer in violating the law, in most cases it has no power to force him to pay up. Last year less than half the unpaid wages uncovered by Wage-Hour inspections was paid back.

If your boss is breaking the law, the chances that he will be found out by the government are pretty slim. At the present rate of inspections, a wage hour inspector will get around to check up on the plant where you work once every 22½ years! The reason for this is that the enemies of the workers in Congress are preventing the law from being properly enforced by the simple process of withholding the money necessary to enforce it.

These facts show how important it is for union representatives in the shops to know what the rights of workers are under the wage hour act. Unless they do, and unless they see to it that the company obeys the law, the cold figures show that the odds are two to one that the workers will get gypped.

Officers of FTA Local 5, Seattle, Washington, pose for their picture. From left, they are: Ivan Jacobsen, board member; John James, trustee; Aileen Mercer, board member; Florence Palmer, secretary-treasurer; James Moellendorf, president and business manager; Robert Branch, trustee; Dottie Morgan, board member; Robert Mabe, board member. Vice-President Norman Kopf was ill, could not be in the picture.

FTA BOARD HITS BALL REPORT; ACTS ON WAR CRISIS, CIVIL RIGHTS

(See pages 2, 3)

Action on the Taft-Hartley-Ball report on FTA Local 22 plus a warning on the threat of war and a renewed endorsement of Henry Wallace marked the FTA Intl. Executive Board session held in Philadelphia, March 14 and 15.

The Board also acted on the lynching of FTA member Roy Cyril Brooks in Gretna, La., and urged an end to deportation of foreign-born labor and political party leaders.

Pointing out that the Ball committee, set up under the Taft-Hartley act to "study" union-management relations, had issued its first major report on Local 22 at a time when the union was trying to negotiate a new contract, the Board said in a unanimous resolution:

"As the first of a series of similar reports on other unions, the report is a danger signal to the entire labor movement, showing that the backers of the Taft-Hatley act plan to add lies and slander to their anti-union arsenal.

"We condemn the report of the Ball committee and demand that the U.S. Senate repudiate it. We warn all unions to be on guard against this new form of union-busting promoted in the disguise of a Taft-Hartley act report."

The resolution on the threat of war (see text, page 2) hit President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall for speeches and statements that "have raised the war hysteria to a fever pitch" and said:

"World War III can be prevented. The response of the people to Henry Wallace's program and the rapid building of progressive parties throughout the nation show that the people are mobilizing to prevent war by political action."

Citing its endorsement of Wallace and the recommendation that FTA locals do likewise, the Board criticized the action of the national office of CIO in attempting to order CIO affiliates to condemn the progressive party movement.

"The Constitution of the U.S. guarantees freedom of speech and assembly to all," the Board said. "The Natinoal CIO cannot force its unions or its members to endorse or condemn any political party. Letters or statements to the contrary by CIO officials cannot compel CIO unions or members to give up their rights."

"We shall continue our support of Henry Wallace and shall increase our efforts to build a new, national progressive party for peace and security."

One Board member, Holman Day of Local 78, voted against the resolution.

Compulsory military training was blasted as a danger to youth and a preparation for "forced labor for all workers" as well as an additional step toward war.

In its place, the Board urged a program of "aid to youth through Federal aid to education, vocational training and full and fair employment for all young workers."

A special resolution was devoted to the murder of FTA member Roy Cyril Brooks of Gretna, La., (see page 3) with a demand that President Truman "back the words of his report on civil rights by action" to bring Brother Brooks' killer to justice.

In a second resolution on civil rights, the Board urged an end to deportation of labor leaders and leaders of the Communist Party, pointing out that the drive was "aimed not only at breaking unions but also at all workers who support Henry Wallace and the building of a progressive political party."

Named in the resolution were Ferdinand Smith, Natl. Maritime Union; Irving Potash, Fur Workers; Charles Doyle, Chemical Workers; John Santo, Transport; Alex Balint, Mine, Mill and Smelter and Claudia Jones, John Williamson and Alexander Bittelman of the Communist Party.

The resolution condemned all reports that the citizenship of Harry Bridges was to be reopened.

Profits Hide Bargaining Refusal, FTA 7 Charges

Multi-million dollar profits during 1946 and 1947 have enabled the Alaska Salmon Industry Inc., close-knit band of salmon packers, to continue its refusal to bargain collectively with FTA Local 7, Local Secretary Prudenio P. Mori charged in Seattle, Wash.

The industry grossed $58 million in 1946 and in 1947 this total ballooned to $91 million, Mori said. With this backlog, the packers have been holding out on opening talks with Local 7 for a 1948 contract despite the local's 10-year standing as bargaining agent for the 3,500 Alaska cannery workers.

Other unions in the industry, including CIO fishermen's locals and Lodge 79, Intl. Assn. of Machinists (unaffiliated, are continuing to put the heat on the employers to bargain with Local 7. The canning season opens in the middle of April, but fishermen and machinists must be dispatched weeks ahead of that date.

The industry has pinned its failure to bargain on the local's refusal to sign Taft-Hartley affidavits. Mori blew up this alibi, however, pointing out that the packers have expressed willingness to negotiate with fishermen's locals although they also have refused to sign the affidavits.

Meanwhile, near Stockton, Calif., Local 7 organizers have signed up 1,600 workers in asparagus fields. Most of these workers will come north the first of April to work in the canneries during the summer months.

Farmers Hit Monopoly

Government building of yardstick plants in basic industries to break monopoly control was proposed here by Pres. James G. Patton of the Natl. Farmers Union in a convention address to 400 delegates from 32 states.

Warning the NFU delegates that farmers are already feeling the effects of deflation "while industrial prices continue to mount upward," Patton said: "The old law of supply and demand is a joke. It was repealed by big business corporations and the trade associations years ago."

He suggested the U. S. government "build plants to break the complete monopoly control in steel, freight cars, chemicals and fertilizers. The government could operate them or lease them if it was felt government operation was not the best way to deal with the situation."

Patton, who was chosen president of the NFU for the eighth time by unanimous nomination, said his organization would steer clear of the 1948 political campaign and not make any Presidential indorsements. On state levels, however, Farmers Unions are getting actively into the campaign.

Patton criticized the 80th Congress as "the worst Congress in the history of the U. S. from the standpoint of people's welfare" and said the NFU would demand that a price support program establishing a floor of 90% be extended at least to Dec. 31, 1950. "We stand for abundant production and fair prices," he said, "and we reject scarcity both in agriculture and industry."

Devoting a major part of his speech to the world scene, Patton called World War III "the dream of an idiot. How can we do these things when the blood is still on our battlefields and half the population of the world is starving because of World War II?"

Compress Group Meets

Joint negotiations for all Gulf-Atlantic plants next year will be sought by the FTA Cotton Compress Council as a result of a unanimous decision at the meeting held this month in Houston, Tex.

Other actions included a program of regular meetings every four months, support for FTA workers in Houston, now facing tough negotiations and a resolution demanding release of the Ellis Island prisoners held for deportation.

According to an FTA Research Dept. report prepared for the Council meeting: "The cotton compress industry has always been a low-wage industry. A Department of Labor estimate shows that at the end of 1942 cotton compress and warehouse workers were getting an average of 51.5 cents an hour, compared to an average of about 91 cents an hour paid to workers in manufacturing industries.

"Today, factory workers in the U. S. make an average of $1.28 an hour. This is probably close to twice as much as the average hourly wage of cotton compress workers in the South. This is certainly the case in the unorganized part of the industry."

$3,000,000,000 per year for Universal Military Training

OR

$3,000,000,000 per year to do ALL of the following:

To construct a 10-room, modern school building in every county in the United States each year

To construct a $50,000 library in every county in the United States each year

To construct annually a $150,000 hospital in each county

To employ 10 doctors and 10 nurses full-time for schools and public health services in each county

To purchase 10 new, modern school busses in each county in the U. S. each year

To maintain one psychiatric and behavior clinic in every county in the U. S.

To provide 10 full-time recreation and juvenile guidance workers in every county in the United States

To bring all schools of the country up to a reasonable standard of efficiency

To meet the pay roll of one junior college with 10 instructors in every county in the United States

To provide free education for the 3 million children under 18 who are not now attending school

To pay all expenses of a 3-year post graduate course for 10,000 students and scientists each year

To pay one year's expenses at college or technical school of the 900,000 boys conscripted

To erect a $750,000 trade and technical school in each congressional district each year.

(From the testimony of the former Secretary of the National Commission for the Defense of Democracy Through Education of the National Education Association before the House Committee on Military Affairs, November 28, 1945.)

This would leave an unexpended balance of $13,300,000 annually. If in the second and subsequent years additional busses, hospitals, and libraries were not needed in each county, and a second technical school were not needed in each congressional district, the cost would be reduced to less than $2,000,000,000 a year.

While there are various possible plans of spending $3,000,000,000 annually for the social improvement of the United States, the above proposals indicate methods by which our national welfare and defense could be tremendously improved for less than the amount that would be wasted on the proposed compulsory military training.

Here's what the three billion dollars the brasshats want to spend on compulsory military training would do for the people's welfare, if it was spent as FTA and CIO propose on education for youth, housing, medical care, etc. Write your Congressman — tell him, no compulsory military training.

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UNIONS HIT EXILE DRIVE

The continued drive to deport militant union leaders and minority political party members was hit on all sides by unions and liberal organizations this month.

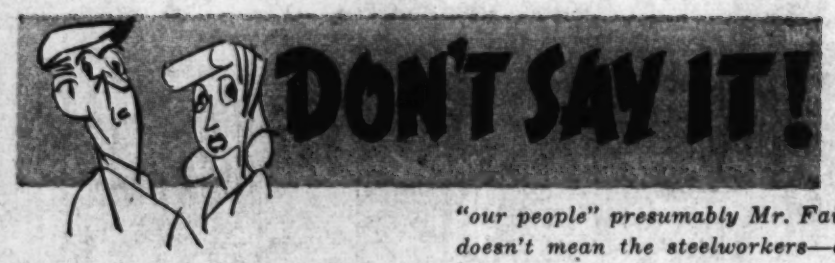
In Philadelphia, the FTA Executive Board condemned efforts to deprive workers of their leaders via the deportation route and in Washington CIO President Philip Murray specifically criticized the holding of non-citizen unionists without bail on Ellis Island.

While the drive continued, civil rights won a major point when the government was forced to let five held on Ellis Island out on bail. The five were Ferdinand Smith of the Natl. Maritime Union; Charles Doyle of Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers; Irving Potash of the Fur Workers; John Williamson, U.S. Communist and Gerhart Eisler, German Communist. Eisler, oddly enough, has been trying for two years to leave the U.S.

Attorney-General Tom Clark pulled a bad boner when he tried to hold Mme. Irene Joliot-Curie, French atomic scientist and Nobel Prize winner, for immediate deportation as she landed from a trans-Atlantic airplane. Mme. Curie, daughter of the discovers of radium and a leadnig member of the French resistence during the war, was released within 24 hours following a nationwide outcry of protest.

The drive, however, continues, with a dozen or more unionists picked up each week. All of them are active union members, most of them supporters of Henry Wallace, and all have spent years trying to become American citizens.

Elmer Benson, first Farmer-Labor Governor of Minnesota, has been named chairman of the National Wallace for President Committee, with headquarters at 39 Park Ave., New York 16.



Truman says even if it means defeat he won't accept help from Wallace and "his communists." Somebody must have been telling the President bedtime stories. Query one: who offered to give Truman any Wallace support in the first place? Query two: if the 15,000,000 people the suppressed Fortune poll says will vote for Wallace are all communists, then the Communist Party is pretty strong in the U.S.—stronger thain in all the rest of the world combined, including the Soviet Union.

* * *

Sometimes even a big trust has to bow to the wind. The other day Senator Tobey (professed friend of price control) pressed T. J. Wood of Proctor and Gamble (FTA organizes their cotton oil plants) on high prices of Crisco. "It looks to me like avidity, cupidity and lust for profits," Tobey snapped. Wood indignantly denied it, said raw materials was the reason. Three days later, however, P & G dropped Crisco two cents, while soap was cut five cents wholesale. These big business tycoons are such phonies that even a feeble blast like Tobey's scares 'em.

* * *

Universal — or almost universal — chorus of employers to union negotiators these days is "NO", pronounced in a loud and emphatic voice. The funny part of it is, union leaders that ran yelping to sign the Taft-Hartley affidavits are getting just as many, if not more, "NOES" as anybody else.

* * *

Last month's FTA story of the Waud family and how hard they found it with six children on $50 a week was played on the front page of all the 2,000 daily newspapers in the U. S. and hundreds of foreign papers. Every publication that printed the story saw fit to say that Brother Waud was a member of Local 80, FTA-CIO of Camden, N. J. All except one, that it—the "PAC Pipeline," put out by National CIO-PAC in Washington. "Pipeline" couldn't bring itself to mention FTA. FTA's for Wallace.

* * *

President Ben Fairless of U. S. Steel says the recent $5.00 a ton price increase (adding $168,000,000 a year to the steel trust's gravy) isn't inflation, but that wage increases "will only result in further inflation and distress for many of our people." By "our people" presumably Mr. Fairless doesn't mean the steelworkers—could only mean the stockholders.

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Major-General Bennett Myers, who cheated the government when he was a buyer for the Air Force, and tried to hide behind a woman's skirts when he was caught, drew 20 months in jail. Hundreds upon hundreds of GI's were sentenced to life imprisonment by army court martial for offenses such as going AWOL for a week. And now Truman wants to revive the draft.

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Greek puppet Premier Soupholis said that at a press conference for U. S. newsmen that "absolute freedom of the press" obtains in Greece — except any newspaperman who criticizes mass executions of Greek patriots will be jailed. Soupholis said this with a U. S. admiral standing at his shoulder. Nobody laughed, asked questions or made any comment. And two Greek editors who criticized mass executions went to jail.

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The late Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen, president of the British-American Tobacco Co., has left $5,412,000 to his girl friend, a dancer. Maybe Sir Hugo's widow and his children, who got little or nothing, will know for a minute or two how it feels to be a British-American worker — who gets the same.

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U. S. Justice Dept. told Congress it doesn't need any funds for civil rights defense unit. If you let the house burn long enough, you don't need the fire department.

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German Gestapo men are being recruited for "industrial police" in U. S. zone of Germany. Over here, our industrialists hire FBI men as "personnel" directors. Same difference.

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The Federal Trade Commission has dropped its case against the big tobacco manufacturing firms, says it has no evidence they're guilty of price fixing. After all, they only have these facts to go on—cigarettes all cost the same, prices all go up at the same time, never go down. And profits are all bigger than ever before.

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